

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 03483 100753Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05
EPG-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
LAB-04 SIL-01 IO-13 L-03 AGRE-00 PA-01 PRS-01
/097 W

-----100958Z 109919 /20

R 091459Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7930

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 3483

ABIDJAN PASS AMBASSADOR ROBERT P. SMITH

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ECON, GH, OVIP (YOUNG, ANDREW)

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S MEETING WITH GHANAIAN OFFICIALS

1. IN MAY 9 MEETING WITH COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FELLI HE MENTIONED THAT US REFUSAL TO SIGN INTERNATIONAL COCOA AGREEMENT WAS "A VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS" AND WAS IN ADDITION THE ONLY BILATERAL PROBLEM BETWEEN THE US AND GHANA WHICH HAS NOT BEEN RESOLVED.

HE INDICATED HE WOULD RAISE THIS SUBJECT WHEN MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG ON MAY 13. FELLI'S "HUMAN RIGHTS" ARGUMENT RAN SOMETHING LIKE THIS: COCOA IS VITAL TO GHANA'S ECONOMIC WELL-BEING. US REFUSAL TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT THREATENS COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. SEVERE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS COULD RESULT, LEADING TO OPPRESSIVE CONDITIONS IN WHICH HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD BE VIOLATED AS REGIME HAD TO RESORT TO FORCE TO MAINTAIN ORDER.

2. BIZARRE AS THIS ARGUMENT IS, FELLI RECENTLY USED IT ON TWO VISITING AMERICAN JOURNALISTS (ACCORDING TO MAY 7 DAILY GRAPHIC) AND WILL PROBABLY UNLIMBER IT AGAIN FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG.
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3. FELLI ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO BAD RAINS, POOR HARVESTS AND RESULTING FOOD SHORTAGES IN GHANA AND EXPRESSED HOPE WE CAN PROVIDE MORE FOOD GRAINS. I TOLD HIM WE WERE ALREADY PROVIDING SOME EMERGENCY FOOD (TITLE II) AND OF COURSE WOULD LIKE TO BE HELPFUL. WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING TITLE I POSSIBILITIES WITH COMMISSIONER FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING GARDINER, BOTH IN ACCRA AND

IN WASHINGTON. I NOTED THAT WHATEVER THE FINAL OUTCOME OF THESE
TALKS, TITLE I HELP DURING THIS FISCAL YEAR SEEMED UNLIKELY.
FELLI DID NOT TAKE ISSUE WITH THIS ANSWER BUT I AM SURE
HE OR ACHEAMPONG WILL RAISE IT WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG. LINEHAN

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 09-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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